

Message Text

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PAGE 01 PRAGUE 01742 270734Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 TRSE-00 AGRE-00 COME-00 CU-02
IO-13 DHA-02 MCT-01 SSM-03 AF-10 ACDA-07 /113 W
-----094444 270737Z /17

R 270600Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3012
INFO AMEMBASSY TUNIS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PRAGUE 1742

E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PDIP, CZ, TS
SUBJECT: VISIT OF TUNISIAN FOREIGN MINISTER

1. TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR ZOUHIR CHELLY TELLS ME THAT HIS GOVERNMENT WAS MOST PLEASED WITH RESULT OF VISIT HERE JUNE 15-19 OF FOREIGN MINISTER HABIB SATTI. MAJOR GAIN FOR TUNISIA WAS RECEIVING CONFIRMATION OF 3-YEAR \$100 MILLION CREDIT (ACTUALLY STATED IN SWISS FRANCS). MUCH OF THIS WILL BE USED TO BUY CZECHOSLOVAK MACHINERY, IF AVAILABLE, FOR TUNISIAN PHOSPHATE INDUSTRY. (COMMENT: IN 1975 TUNISIA ENJOYED A 3.5-1 TRADE ADVANTAGE WITH CZECHOSLOVAKIA, WHOSE IMPORTS FROM TUNISIA WERE ALMOST ENTIRELY OF FERTILIZER AND OTHER PHOSPHATE PRODUCTS, AND IMPORTED LITTLE CZECH MACHINERY. CREDIT IN EFFECT IS BARTER ARRANGEMENT OF CZECH MACHINERY FOR PHOSPHATES. END COMMENT).

2. PRAGUE HAS DISPATCHED SOME 40 CZECH PHYSICIANS TO TUNISIA, MAINLY IN RURAL AREAS AND 17 TEACHERS, MAINLY IN FIELD OF SPORTS; IN MANY CASES, THEIR FAMILIES ACCOMPANY THEM. SOME INCREASE IN THESE NUMBERS WILL RESULT FROM SATTI VISIT AND SOME TUNISIAN STUDENTS WILL COME HERE.

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3. POLITICAL DISCUSSIONS AVOIDED CONTROVERSIAL ISSUES, GOC AGREED WITH TUNISIAN VIEW THAT CSCE FINAL ACT BENEFITS MUST BE EXTENDED TO OTHER PARTS OF WORLD, ESPECIALLY THE MEDITERRANEAN BASIN. BOTH SIDES CALLED FOR RECONVENING GENEVA ME CONFERENCE WITH PLO THE SOLE REPRESENTATIVE OF PALESTINIAN ARABS. ACCORDING TO CHELLY, CHNOUPEK AGREED WITH CHELLY'S EMPHASIS THAT THE INITIATIVE FOR A MIDDLE EAST SOLUTION STILL LIES WITH PRESIDENT

CARTER.

4. IN DISCUSSING AFRICAN ISSUES THE TWO MINISTERS AGREED THAT
SOUTH AFRICAN BALCKS WOULD GAIN POWER ONLY THROUGH ARMED STRUGGLE.

5. FOREIGN MINISTER CHNOUPEK ACCEPTED AN INVITATION TO TUNIS
AND IS TRYING TO FIT IT INTO HIS SCHEDLE FAIRLY SOON.
COMMENT: THIS FITS IN WITH HIS ACTIVIST PROGRAM TO BUILD TIES
WITH THIRD WORLD, ESPECIALLY IN ME AND AFRICA, WHERE CZECHOSLOVAKIA
EVEIDENTLY CONTINUES TO BUILD UP A SURROGATE ROLE TO ADVANCE
SOVIET INTERESTS.

6. DECONTROL AFTER DECEMBE 31, 1980.
BYRNE

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 27-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
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